

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a particle composed of a coprecipitate applied as a layer around a neutral hydrophilic carrier by spraying an organic solution over said neutral hydrophilic carrier, said solution comprising at least one active substance, one surface-active agent and one hydrophilic polymer, wherein the spraying of the whole of the solution is carried out in at least two separate stages, each of these stages being followed systematically by a stage of milling the product obtained on conclusion of the preceding stage,

wherein said process comprises the following stages:

- a) preparing an organic solution comprising the active substance, the hydrophilic polymer and the surface-active agent,
- b) spraying a portion of the solution obtained in a) over the neutral hydrophilic carriers,
- c) milling the particles obtained in stage b),
- d) spraying the remaining amount of the organic solution over the particles milled in stage c)
- e) final milling of the particles obtained in stage d).

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spraying/milling sequence (stages b to d) is repeated one or more times.

4. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein it additionally comprises a drying stage either after each spraying stage, before milling, or immediately after the milling.

5. (Currently Amended) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inert hydrophilic carrier is composed of any chemically and pharmaceutically inert excipient existing in the crystalline or amorphous particulate form and ~~preferably chosen from the group consisting of sugar derivatives, celluloses and their mixtures.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is chosen from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidones, ~~in particular polymers with a molecular weight of between 10 000 and 50 000~~, cellulose derivatives, ~~preferably hydroxypropylmethylecellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxymethylecellulose, hydroxypropylmethylecellulose phthalate or hydroxypropylmethylecellulose acetate/succinate~~, acrylic polymers and polyethylene glycols.

7. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface-active agent is chosen from the group consisting of cationic, anionic, nonionic and amphoteric agents, alone or as a mixture.

8. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein the organic solvent is chosen from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, tetrahydrofuran, isopropyl ether, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methylene chloride and the mixtures of these solvents.

9. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of the particles as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spraying stages are carried out in a coating pan, in a perforated pan coater or in a fluidized bed.

10. (Withdrawn) A particle composed of a coprecipitate which is applied as a layer around a carrier and which comprises at least one active substance, one surface-active agent and one hydrophilic polymer, wherein it is capable of being obtained by spraying a

solution comprising at least one active substance, one surface-active agent and one hydrophilic polymer, said spraying being carried out at least in two separate stages, said stages each being followed by a milling stage.

11. (Withdrawn) The particle as claimed in claim 10, wherein the active substance is present in the particle in a proportion which can vary between 1 and 60% by weight.

12. (Withdrawn) The particle as claimed in claim 10, wherein the inert hydrophilic carrier is present in a proportion which can range up to 95% by weight.

13. (Withdrawn) The particle as claimed in claim 10, wherein the hydrophilic polymer/active principle ratio by weight is between 10/1 and 1/2.

14. (Withdrawn) The particle as claimed in claim 10, wherein the surface-active agent is present in a proportion which can vary between 0.1 and 20% by weight, with respect to the total weight obtained.

15. (Withdrawn) The particle as claimed in claim 10, wherein the unit particle size of the inert hydrophilic carrier can be between 50 and 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

16. (Withdrawn) The particle as claimed in claim 15, wherein the unit particle size of the inert hydrophilic carrier can be between 90 and 200 $\mu\text{m}$ .

17. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical form, wherein it comprises at least one particle as claimed in claim 10, optionally in combination with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

18. (New) The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the inert hydrophilic carrier is composed of a chemically and pharmaceutically inert excipient chosen from the group consisting of sugar derivatives, celluloses and their mixtures.

19. (New) The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the polyvinylpyrrolidones have a molecular weight of between 10,000 and 50,000 and the cellulose derivatives are

selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate and hydroxy propylmethylcellulose acetate/succinate.